MOUNT ELLIOTT ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

PURPOSE STATEMENT

March 2003

Approved by:

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Date: March 25/03

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Date: Mar. 31/03

MOUNT ELLIOT ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
Purpose Statement

Ecological reserves are areas selected to preserve representative and special natural ecosystems, plant and animal species, features and phenomena. The key goal of ecological reserves is to contribute to the maintenance of biological diversity and the protection of genetic materials. All consumptive resource uses and the use of motorized vehicles are prohibited. Research and educational activities may be carried out but only under permit.

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Mount Elliot Ecological Reserve is to protect a small self-contained subalpine drainage, including a cirque lake. The ecological reserve includes a complete hanging valley with a subalpine lake. The side walls are steep, but mostly forested. It contains a variety of closed subalpine forests and loosely treed or open "subalpine parklands'. The igneous rocks found here and their soils are in contrast to the volcanics of nearby ecological reserves, Tsitika Mountain and Mount Derby.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Impact of adjacent logging on the ecological reserve	➢ Review forest development plans to ensure that forest harvesting activity does not impact the ecological reserve and its values. ➢ Install boundary signage. ➢ Develop a more formal monitoring program. ➢ Recruit a Volunteer Warden.
Lack of knowledge of the natural values	➢ Encourage researchers to complete an ecological inventory including rare species and introduced species.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	☒	Mount Elliott Ecological Reserve makes a minimal contribution of 0.62% to the representation of the Northern Island Mountains Ecosection (NIM), which is under protected at 9.1%. The ecological reserve is one of 18 protected areas that contribute to the representation of NIM.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☐	Insignificant contributions to the representation of ATunp, CWHvm2, and MHmm1 variants
Special Features	☒	Hanging valley
Rare/Endangered Values	☐	None known at this time
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☒	Due to its self-contained drainage system, the ecological reserve is suitable for hydrological studies such as a water quality baseline. There is an opportunity to increase understanding of natural values with field research.

Recreation

Representation		
backcountry	☐	Not Applicable
destination	☐	Not Applicable
travel corridor	☐	Not Applicable
local recreation	☐	Not Applicable
Special Opportunities	☐	Not Applicable
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Geomorphology -- offsite

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☐	Values unknown
Special Feature	☐	None known at this time

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	Not Applicable
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a system of ecological reserves in BC
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☐	Not Applicable
Partnerships	☐	Not Applicable

Vulnerability	☒	Vulnerable to adjacent logging
Relationship to other Strategies	☐	Not Applicable

Area: 324 hectares

Date of establishment: August 10, 1989